

# THE PROSE POEM: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Volume 6 | 1997

## Knit-Wit Or, The Thread Of The Story

Jacques Sternberg

© Providence College

The author(s) permits users to copy, distribute, display, and perform this work under the following conditions: (1) the original author(s) must be given proper attribution; (2) this work may not be used for commercial purposes; (3) the users may not alter, transform, or build upon this work; (4) users must make the license terms of this work clearly known for any reuse or distribution of this work. Upon request, as holder of this work's copyright, the author(s) may waive any or all of these conditions.

*The Prose Poem: An International Journal* is produced by  
The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress)  
for the Providence College Digital Commons.  
<http://digitalcommons.providence.edu/prosepoems/>

**Jacques Sternberg**

KNIT-WIT OR, THE THREAD OF THE STORY

Never had I seen Lisa without her knitting needles. Which, in fact, she manipulated with an utterly stunning skill. It was her single passion, her sole occupation.

How disquieting, the sight of that superbly, indecently sensual flesh forever engaged in such a woefully banal pursuit.

It took me several months to coax her to put down her needles and her knitting, if only for a moment.

I lured her toward the bed. I was just about—at long last—to undress her, when I noticed, buried between two of her blond locks, a bit of woolen thread. I pulled it.

For two hours I pulled it. When I got to the end I had quite unraveled Lisa, and there, in her place, I was holding in my hands an immense ball of wool.

From *Le Tricot* Translated  
from the French by **Norman  
R. Shapiro**